

A STEP IN ADVANCE.

The dispatches inform us that a resolution has been offered at the General Conference of the M. E. Church, now in session in Baltimore, to the effect that women be declared eligible to the office of leader, steward, exhorter, and local preacher.

"THE AMAZONS AGAIN."

Under this head the New York Graphic thus discourses relative to the recent Convention of Woman Suffragists in that city:

The women are coming next week. And they will take Wednesday and Thursday to tell why they ought to vote, and what exact terms must be for keeping the ballot-boxes and offices all to themselves. In looking over the list of speakers, we miss the names of some of the old-time advocates of what may almost be considered "a lost cause."

It is seldom indeed that attempted or assumed opposition makes so many strong points in favor of woman's enfranchisement in so short a space and in such a pleasant manner as is witnessed in the above extract. Time was—and not so long since either—when editors of otherwise respectable journals would descend to the lowest form of abuse and the vilest of innuendoes upon those women who dared to brave the disgusting storm of vituperation and assert their right to citizenship in a free country wherein they were free-born.

"Courageous and tenacious of her rights!" Miss Anthony has ever been, and her ere-while bitterest opponents are compelled to respect her therefor. It is no wonder that men try to conceal the shame they needs must feel at the repeated outrage of taxation without representation which has been imposed upon the venerable Smith sisters, of Glastonbury, behind the noise made by the crows of these defrauded women, as they were taken from the pastures of their rightful possessors to satisfy the unjust demands of the tax-gatherer.

Can it be possible, after the admission which persistent demonstrations have compelled from man, that "women are steadily gaining ground in education, industry, society, administrative positions, and moral influence," that any one can expect his words to be believed when he further says that "the signs of woman's enfranchisement steadily diminish?"

Another victory. We notice in an exchange the announcement that the California Medical Society on the 20th ultimo agreed by a unanimous vote to admit women to full membership. Thus, one step at a time, are the courageous and persistent women of the land advancing in the highway of justice toward the citadel of equal rights.

EQUAL RIGHTS AND MATRIMONY.

The sentiment that there is a position, a sphere for woman outside of matrimony, is gaining popularity and doing much to redeem and elevate marriage, since it tends to the prevention of many of those uncongenial and unjustifiable unions, which have been directly and indirectly the result of woman's unequal position.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR READERS OF THE NEW NORTHWEST: Once more the mutations of an itinerant missionary's labors bring us to "home, sweet home," and, as we sit in the brilliant glow of the morning sunshine and pause from the contemplation of the scenes of gladness around us, all hallowed as they are by the merry hum of laughter and conversation that welled up from the happy hearts of our loved and cherished ones, we resume our jottings of yet unchronicled journeys, relying wholly upon a memory dimmed by recent illness for details which should have been penned while yet fresh, and full of the vigor which the inspiration of the moment never fails to create.

On the steamer "North Pacific," going over from Seattle to Port Townsend, we met Rev. Dr. Dillon, of the Pacific Christian Advocate, who was taking a run over to Victoria for his health. Conversation with him and a few other friends concerning theology, nature, politics, literature, etc., to 9 A. M., which would otherwise have been left as a trackless waste upon our imagination. The morning was too raw and cold for out-door observations, though we did once in a while brave the chilly atmosphere while gazing for a moment at the Olympic range, and from that into the green waters of the Whulge, as the good steamer lashed them into spray.

Port Townsend is a quiet, romantic and dreamy place, like Natchez, on, and Natchez under the hill, being separated in its interests by a precipitous bluff, which it is an average day's journey to climb and descend. The place was once the seat of a very thriving trade, but its terminus bubble burst when New Tacoma rose to the surface, and now, like Stellacoom, Port Townsend is decidedly quiet. Here is a Port of Entry, where Hon. Henry Webster and our genial friend, Col. L. H. Briggs and his estimable lady, may be found at headquarters under the hill, while the residence of the former gentleman is on the hill; and at both places we enjoyed a feast of reason and flow of soul which can never be forgotten.

It would, indeed, ill become a church that has been blessed with the untiring labors of Mrs. Van Cott to ignore the claims which such as she have upon it for recognition of the work so valiantly performed in the Master's vineyard, and all friends of equal rights must rejoice if the resolution in question is adopted by the Conference.

"NEITHER DOLLS NOR DUMMIES."

It is quite refreshing to find a man occasionally who is disgusted with the current clap-trap about the extravagant desires and tastes of American women, and who is manly enough to state plain facts in their defense. The infrequency of such an occurrence tempts us to publish the following from the Puget Sound Express:

ANOTHER VICTORY.

We notice in an exchange the announcement that the California Medical Society on the 20th ultimo agreed by a unanimous vote to admit women to full membership. Thus, one step at a time, are the courageous and persistent women of the land advancing in the highway of justice toward the citadel of equal rights.

Dr. Dillon, of the Pacific Christian Advocate, "though differing with us widely in his religious views," as he has an undoubted right to do, is yet so tolerant in his opinions and so kindly in the expression of them as to command the respect both of his readers and ours. In proof of this, witness the following, taken from the last issue of the journal over which he presides with such ability and dignity:

Oh, Christ! it is a goodly sight to see What heaven hath done for this delicious land! What fruits of fragrance blush on every tree! What goodly prospects o'er the hills expand?

But, unlike the times and country of which Byron sung, all this is wild and new; and, but for the greed of the land shark, would be as free as the electric air that bathes alike the brow of Mount Baker and the base of Olympus in a netar, fit for the inhalation of the Goddess of Liberty.

As we wonder and gaze, our imagination all dazed by the "mix'd and mighty scene," we look in vain for topping convents, carved crosses, rude shrines, and other evidences of Oriental superstition of which Byron sang so feelingly, and we gather the inspiration of the rare, electric air, and indite an apostrophe to mental freedom which respect for the illustrious poet above quoted, (to say nothing of our own modesty), prevents us from transcribing here, and thereby risking the danger of making ourself ridiculous by contrast.

Port Townsend-on-the-hill contains a fine array of dwellings with well-kept yards and flourishing fruit trees. The same town under-the-hill is occupied by stores, saloons, hotels, and so forth, where the men engaged in trade, sigh over hopes departed, and dream of better times. This was the first place yet encountered where we failed to get large audiences; yet, it seems to be nobody's fault, and we charge the whole to inertia on general principles. The citizens subscribed liberally to the Journal of Peace, and our four days' sojourn among them was an interval of long-to-be-remembered hospitality and pleasure. The hotel, kept by Mr. Clapp, is a quiet, orderly place, where good food and reasonable charges kept one in working humor.

But we must not longer tarry at Port Townsend, for here comes the "North Pacific," and we are bound Olympia-ward. Again we meet Dr. Dillon and a number of other congenial friends; again we chat and philosophize and speculate and poetize and theorize, and, at a late hour, retire to rest, assured by the steward that the steamer will tarry on the morrow at the Olympia dock to "wait for the turn of the tide," and we can indulge a coveted morning nap. Sleep so soundly that the great vessel lugs herself against the piles at the dock at 3 A. M. without disturbing us; and at 6 we venture forth, to meet a messenger from the hospitable home of our good friend,

WOMEN IN BENEFICIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The question has been asked whether the attempt to build up the Order of the Red Cross in this jurisdiction promises to be successful. We answer, that although we have not met with the success we have desired, nor the encouragement we had a right to expect, we are not disappointed, nor doubtful as to the permanency of the Order here. For, since ours is the first secret Order that has ever attempted to confer its benefits equally upon its members irrespective of sex, it is strange that the public should regard the experiment as a doubtful one?

The lectures were given on Thursday and Saturday evenings at Olympia Hall, the audiences being large, and the leading people, as ever, genial, appreciative, and fully imbued with the spirit of freedom.

Mrs. A. H. H. Stuart, who, as Chairman of the Board of Immigration, has her hands and brain well occupied by work that well serves Territorial interests, drove us over the suburbs of the town and gave us many a sparkling thought, as, in her quaint, terse way she chatted of things past, present, and prospective relative to public and private interests.

On Sunday we awoke seriously ill, with a lecture appointment out for the evening which we were unable to fill. Went in the afternoon to "Swatow," to the pleasant abode of good Mr. and Mrs. Dobbins, where, as we were for several days an invalid, we were compelled to lie by, that time might have chance to repair the damages which constant mental and physical effort had wrought in an overburdened constitution. Our genial friends spared no pains to make our visit profitable and pleasant. Good nursing and plenty of rest sufficiently restored us to enable us to make a few calls on Wednesday, and a visit on Thursday at Marshal Mossman's, where we found good Mrs. M. up to her eyes in work of every imaginable description—a help-meet in fact and deed to a worthy husband who fully appreciates her. This woman does the housework, including washing and ironing, for a family of nine, teaches wax and feather-work, does stamping, embroidery, braiding, etc., for customers, and makes a speciality of visiting cards, which she sells at very low prices, stamped to order in any kind of type, upon tinted, plain, marbled, white, enameled, sensitive, or rep cards. Yet, with all her capability, the masculine ignorance who grades her doorway for a dollar per day, and who couldn't be made to pay poll-tax or read the Constitution, is her political sovereign, while she is denied a voice in a government which she is taxed to support.

Brother Murphy, of the Standard, is getting along famously, as every good suffragist ought. He has bought a steam power-press, with engine and fixtures complete, and, in connection with Brother Bagley, of the Courier, is printing the Olympian, a sparkling daily, well filled with choice readings. Brother Cook is also busy with the Echo, which he says is progressing finely. The Transcript also flourishes here, making three weekly and two daily papers in a town scarcely large enough—judged by ordinary standards—to support one weekly. But the Olympians are great readers, and they fully understand the power of printers' ink.

Owing to severe illness, we were wholly unable to canvass for subscribers, and were glad indeed when we were so far recovered as to be able to take stage for Tenino, and there take train for Kalama, at which place we went aboard the elegant steamer "Bonita," bound for Portland and home.

YAMHILL COUNTY W. S. A. Concerning the recent session of this organization at McMinnville, Mrs. Ann M. Martin, Corresponding Secretary, writes: "Our meeting at McMinnville was a decided success. It was as interesting a meeting as I ever attended. Every one seemed to enter into the spirit of the occasion, and worked to make the meeting a success."

PURCHASING DEPARTMENT. Mrs. S. C. G.: Sent hat 22d. Mrs. G. A. H.: Sent bonnet 23d. Mrs. M. M. A.: Sent bracelets 23d. Hattie: The polonaise is again in vogue. Mrs. N. M.: The plated ware you mention will cost from \$35 to \$40, owing to quality. Can get very nice and warranted for \$35.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS. F. M. B., Salem: Note received, and order attended to. Mrs. M. F. C., Lafayette: Please let us know if the package per steamer "Beaver" was received by you. If so, we hope for good results. Mrs. J. A. J., Salem: The article relative to Abigail Adams, from the "Editor's Easy Chair" in Harper's Magazine for March, was published in the NEW NORTHWEST of April 7th.

WOMAN'S RIGHTS--NO. 3.

One more example of my idea of a wife and mother—Mrs. Henry Clay. What a noble example for emulation! See her at home faithfully attending her household duties, carrying on the farm at Ashland, raising her children, and making butter for the Lexington market whilst her noble husband made laws for the country at the Capitol, and love to the beautiful women who thronged the Presidential parlors. How generous he ever was to the poor! How profuse in spending his money! It was all necessary to be done, for he was a politician—one of nature's noblemen! What a splendid life he must have led, knowing, even in his glory and splendor, that back there in his "Kentucky home" one faithful, virtuous heart was toiling, economizing, wearing Kentucky jeans, cutting and making garments for his negroes and rearing his children, not even manifesting any objection to what you might term her "drudgery life."

Examples such as these might be multiplied, but it is useless. They all go to show that women should be content with what they have, and not strive for things never intended for them. Now, I do not put my opposition to the right of woman to have an equal chance with man on the ground of want of intelligence. That is silly twaddle; and can only catch fools; for every one knows that women, as a class, are just as intelligent as men when they have the same opportunities. A school teacher will tell you that the girls in his school are just as susceptible of receiving instructions in the solid branches as the boys. Neither can I say that a woman should not vote, because, if she did, she would have to wear the roads, act as juryman, and bear arms, if necessary. We all know that there are thousands of men in our community who do neither of these things, and yet, we never urge that as an objection to their voting, so that is no argument; but I place my objection upon the broad, and only grounds susceptible of argument—SHE IS A WOMAN!

I do not wish to convey the impression that it is any part of the direct work of the Order to promote the political enfranchisement of women, for it is in no sense a political organization; but I do assert that our laws and usages fully recognize the principle that the one sex is entitled to precisely the same rights as the other. When we consider the full scope and character of the Order in question, we could not expect nor desire for it a rapid growth; but we do expect—and have seen it demonstrated—that it will take a firm and permanent hold upon the affections of those who desire the welfare of their race, and we believe that the day is not far distant when its boundaries will encircle the civilized world. Then, brothers and sisters, take courage! You who have stood up so faithfully for the Order amid the thousand obstacles we have had to encounter, deserve a nobler name than the victor in a hundred battles, for the organization you have so persistently labored to plant and sustain, will, we trust, live and prosper after your work is finished—live to bless the millions yet unborn!

LIBERAL CONVENTION. The Liberals and Free Thinkers of Oregon and Washington Territory are requested to meet in Convention at Portland, Oregon, July 5, 1876, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the rooms of the Liberal Association, for the purpose of perfecting a general organization of the Liberals and Free Thinkers throughout the country, and for such other business as may properly come before such Convention. It is hoped every community will strive to be represented.

By order of the Liberal Association of Portland, Oregon, J. B. GARRISON, H. B. NICHOLS, President, Secretary.

The editor of the Eastern Oregon Tribune recites, in pathetic terms, the impositions practiced upon a "copper-colored sinner" by her lazy lord, and after suggesting blood-curdling punishments, calls upon us to come up to her defense. Inasmuch as this particular field of literature seems especially adapted to Brother Abbott's brilliant rhetorical powers, we decline to interfere, though we don't doubt that the aborigine could appreciate and understand logic quite as well as some editors we wot of.

At the meeting of Plymouth Church on the 18th, Henry C. Bowen was unanimously expelled.

LETTER FROM IOWA.

Persons who, after the lapse of a quarter of a century, have visited places familiar to their youth, can imagine something of the feelings with which I looked around me on our arrival at what was once my home, in Iowa. We reached here on the 4th of May, after a pleasant trip by sea and rail. After looking around me a while, I began to recognize some things, but there is still a strange peculiarity about the country to me, and one that I never thought of before I left here, and that is, it seems so small. The people have small farms, which produce good crops of corn, which, together with pork, seems to be the staple product, so far as I have observed.

The time was when an account of a trip across the continent might have been written with a prospect that somebody would be interested in reading it, but since travel back and forth has become so frequent it is too common a subject to write about, much less read. I will mention, however, one incident of our journey, and that was a terrific thunder storm that took place on the night of April 29th, as we were going up Weber Cañon. The deafening peals of thunder and blinding flashes of lightning were enough to scare a Webfoot of 27 years standing out of his wits. Then the rain—it rains in Oregon, but nothing like this delayed. A land slide occurred, which delayed our train for some time, but we finally moved on to Laramie Station, a place of about 2,500 inhabitants. It was a melancholy time for some of them, as they had just buried eight of their citizens, who had been killed by the Indians.

For the encouragement of the farmers in Oregon I will say that that is not the only country visited by late rains and unseasonable frosts, for here it is still raining, and yesterday it snowed. There is as yet no corn planted nor gardens made, and but little plowing done. The roads are almost impassable. We will go on to Ohio in a few days, from whence I will probably write you again. G. W. B.

RECENT EVENTS.

A fire at Green River, Wyoming, on the 20th, destroyed about \$7,000 worth of property.

Daniel Drew is in a critical state of health, with small prospects of improvement.

Snow fell in Powder River Valley on Monday and Tuesday of last week to the depth of seven inches.

Ben Holladay's property at his West Chester county (N. Y.) farm was sold at sheriff's sale on the 19th, to satisfy judgments.

Charles Francis Adams has been selected by the Centennial Committee of New York City for orator on the Fourth of July, 1876.

From 25,000 to 35,000 persons were within the Centennial Grounds on last Monday. The paying visitors on Saturday numbered 18,182.

The Senate on the 22d confirmed the nomination of Pierrepont as Minister to England, Taft as Attorney-General, and Cameron as Secretary of War.

A hail-storm of great fury passed over Morristown, N. J., on the 21st. The hail-stones killed chickens and many birds on the wing. Plate glass was shattered as easily as common glass. Some hail-stones 6 inches in circumference were found.

The funerals of the murdered consuls took place at Salonica on the 19th with great ceremony, and in a manner satisfactory to every one. Perfect order was preserved. A Paris dispatch says it is expected that the widows of the consuls will each receive two hundred thousand dollars indemnity.

Mitchell has submitted a resolution instructing the committee on commerce to inquire into the extent and condition of the salmon fisheries on the Columbia River in Oregon and Washington Territory and report a bill for the regulation of such fisheries and protection of artificial hatching in said river; adopted.

Frank M. Pixley, one of the delegation appointed by San Francisco to urge action on the Chinese question by the Federal Government, appeared before the House committee on foreign affairs, accompanied by Congressman Piper, and presented an argument on the subject. Among other things, he stated that there were 60,000 Chinese in California, of the lowest class of Coolies, Mongolian originals; that the arrivals number not less than 2,000 per month, and that the State is, in fact, rapidly becoming China's Botany Bay.

The sub-committee on expenditures in the Treasury Department, investigating the bureau of captured and abandoned property, is of the opinion that Bristow's course has been entirely correct, but in the administration of his predecessors, Richardson and Boutwell and McCulloch—especially the latter—the committee finds an inexhaustible fund of evidence of the most startling character. Thus far there is an unexplained deficit of over \$6,000,000. Sixty-seven thousand dollars are charged against S. H. Kaufman, who was at that time clerk in charge of attorney's account, and will be called upon to explain what he did with the money.